

“Extending the Gift of Life”

(T-7.VI)

Paragraphs 8-10 of this section explain the dynamics behind being attacked, feeling attacked, and attacking in return, and counsel us to respond instead in a way that translates attack into blessing.

- 1. When others attack you, it is because they do not know they possess abundance. They think they are lacking.**

Those who attack do not know they are blessed. They attack because they believe they are deprived. (8:5-6)

- 2. You are tempted to attack in return because you think attack has power to deprive you of something you want.**

Attack could never promote attack unless you perceived it as a means of depriving you of something you want. (9:1)

- 3. But you cannot lose anything unless you do not value it and thus reject it.**

But you cannot lose anything unless you do not value it and therefore *do not want it*. (9:2)

- 4. You then project your rejection of it and believe others are taking it from you (via their attacks).**

This makes you feel deprived of it, and by projecting your rejection, you believe that others are taking it from you. (9:3)

- 5. This is ultimately about your possession of God. You project your own rejection of God onto others, so you believe that they are out to take God from you.**

One must be fearful if he believes that his brother is attacking him to tear the Kingdom of Heaven from him.

This is the ultimate basis for all of the ego's projection. (9:4-10:1)

Projecting its insane belief that you have been treacherous to your Creator, it [the ego] believes that your brothers, who are as incapable of this as you are, are out to take God from you. (10:3)

Projection always sees your will in others. If you will to separate yourself from God, that is what you will think others are doing to you. (10:5-6)

- 6. This is exactly what the ones attacking you are doing as well.**

Whenever a brother attacks another, this is what he believes. (10:4)

7. If you react to their attack with your own attack, you are sharing their delusion of being lacking.

Do not share their delusion of scarcity, or you will perceive yourself as lacking. (8:8)

8. Instead, you must see their attack as a call for the Holy Spirit's patience. You must give out of your abundance. This will translate attack into blessing and teach them *their* abundance.

Every attack is a call for His [the Holy Spirit's] patience, because only His patience can translate attack into blessing. Those who attack do not know they are blessed....Give therefore of your abundance, and teach them theirs. (8:4-5, 7)

Exercise

Choose a recent instance where you feel you were or are being attacked.

This attack has no power to deprive me of anything.

This is a call for the Holy Spirit's patience.

[Name] only attacks because he does not know that he is blessed.

I will give therefore of my abundance and teach [name] his.

With the Holy Spirit's help, I can translate attack into blessing.